



Martin O'Malley, *Governor*
Anthony G. Brown, *Lt. Governor*
Malcolm D. Woolf, *Director*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS # 3
Request for Proposals High Resolution Geophysical Resource Survey
For the Maryland Energy Administration
PROJECT NO. DEXR240005
August 30, 2012

Ladies/Gentlemen:

This List of Questions and Answers #3, questions #21 through #24 is being issued to clarify certain information contained in the above named RFP. The statements and interpretations of Contract requirements which are stated in the following questions of potential Offerors, are not binding on the State, unless the State expressly amends the RFP. Nothing in the State's responses to these questions is to be construed as agreement to or acceptance by the State of any statement or interpretation on the part of the vendor asking the question as to what the contract does or does not require. However, if from a particular vendor question(s) it seems as if the vendor has misinterpreted RFP wording referenced in a question, the State's response typically will point out the misinterpretation as part of the answer to the question.

21. **QUESTION:** Regarding Section 1.20 of the MEA High-Resolution Geophysical Survey RFP, are unaudited financial reports of a parent organization acceptable if the Offeror is a subsidiary of another entity?

STATE RESPONSE: If the parent organization is guaranteeing the performance of the subsidiary then yes the financials must be of the parent organization and paragraph 30 of Attachment A, Contract is applicable. Audited financial statements are preferred. If not available then, an explanation as to why the parent organization's financials are not audited would be desired.

If the parent organization is not guaranteeing the performance of the subsidiary then all documents must pertain exclusively to the Offeror.

See Addendum #3 for financial documents required for submission.

22. **QUESTION:** Hurricane Isaac is causing significant changes to the sea floor in the Gulf of Mexico (mud coming out of the deltas). Several of the prospective bidders working on the MEA RFP work in the Oil and Gas (O&G) industry in the Gulf of Mexico(GOM). This includes MBEs teaming with MDOT certified MBEs. They have to commit resources to restoring O&G operations in the GOM once the storm has passed and this will reduce their ability to respond in a timely manner to the MEA solicitation. In light of this, would you please consider extending the deadline for responding to the RFP?

STATE RESPONSE: The MEA is aware of the potential impact Hurricane Isaac may have on the Gulf of Mexico and the MEA is sensitive to the fact that potential Offerors may be involved with post Isaac assessments. Offerors also need to understand that while disasters may affect certain areas of the nation, the MEA has its needs for a schedule that will lead to an award of this contract shortly so the report due dates as stated in RFP section 2.4 can be maintained. In order to attempt to maintain a schedule that will bring the MEA to award by the desired time, we are able to amend the due date by one week. The new due date is September 17, 2012. See Addendum #3.

23. **QUESTION:** If we propose to conduct the survey using multiple vessels (operating concurrently) do the requirements for vessels to have accommodations for (up to 4) Additional Government Observers (Section 2.5 of RFP) apply to all vessels, or just one vessel; or can a maximum of four additional observers be distributed among all vessels?

STATE RESPONSE: The requirement is for no less than 4 additional observers. It is not "up to 4 government observers" as stated in your question.

The RFP has been amended to reflect that if an Offeror proposes to use multiple vessels to accomplish the data gathering activities in this Scope of Work, Contractor must provide an opportunity for, at least 4 government observers to conduct their additional observer activities, covering the entire survey area, in teams of no fewer than 2 government observers.

24. **QUESTION:** Extensive experience conducting surveys in the US. OCS to BOEM requirements is anticipated to be a significant component of being qualified to respond to the RFP and conduct the survey scope of work. Many (if not most) of the survey firms having such qualifications will be conducting extensive post-Isaac condition surveys for areas in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) affected by Isaac. Mobilization and scheduling of all available resources (vessels, equipment and personnel) to conduct those surveys commenced last week, and activities will rapidly ramp up over the next few days. The urgency to conduct post-hurricane surveys in the GOM as a priority will draw significant time from senior management. So that the Commonwealth of Maryland receives the best possible responses to your RFP and the pricing is well developed, the MEA may want to consider (and will certainly benefit from) a time extension to the RFP submittal date. Will the MEA consider a one week extension of the submittal date?

STATE RESPONSE: Maryland is not a Commonwealth. The MEA is aware of the issue. See Addendum #3 and response to Question #22, the due date has been changed.

Should you require clarification of the information provided, please contact me via e-mail or (410) 260-7752 as soon as possible.

Date Issued: August 30, 2012

By:



Maria Ulrich
Procurement Officer